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ABSTRACT

Over the summer, many children lose ground in the reading skills they are building at school. Weave reading into the family's summer, and children will go back to school refreshed, excited, and ready to pick up where he or she left off. Advice for parents and caregivers includes: seek out books and reading materials that tie into children's summer activities; subscribe to special interest magazines directed to children; make regular trips to the library; be a reading role model for children; encourage a balance of television and reading for pleasure; and incorporate reading into household chores. Family outings are ideal for sparking reading: children should be encouraged to write about family outings, keep diaries or journals, write letters or postcards to friends or relatives, help with shopping lists, or create stories. Summer is a time for fun, relaxation...and reading adventures! (RS)

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Summer Reading Adventure! Tips for Parents of Young Readers = La lectura... Una aventura para el verano: Ideas para padres de ninos que apenas comienzan a leer.

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Adventure!

Tips for
Young R

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It's been proven...

Over the summer many children lose ground in the reading skills they're building at school. As a parent or caregiver, you can make books and reading part of your child's summer fun. You will keep your child's skills developing by encouraging him or her to read for fun and relaxation. Swimming, biking, and camping are all part of summertime excitement—but don't forget reading. There's no need to push—your enthusiasm for expanding your child's interests and imagination through reading will catch his or her attention. We've packed into your [illegible] summer [illegible] you'll [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Set out on a summer reading quest

In search of books. Seek out books and reading materials that tie into your child's summer activities, on topics such as baseball, collecting, or hiking. Keep these books accessible in a reading corner or bookshelf, and include materials about other interests and books by favorite authors. This special area can be a natural place for relaxing and reading after a swim or an active game. Take a bag of books to the beach, pool, or park for those in-between times.

Magazine pursuit. Summer is a good time to subscribe to one of the many special-interest magazines directed to children or to find one at your local library. These magazines include something for everyone, such as fiction, sports, nature, or crafts. Like you, children love getting magazines in the mail and reading publications meant just for them. These magazines also provide an opportunity for children to share discoveries with friends who have similar interests.

Library treasures. Make regular trips to the library with your child. See if there is a summer program that offers prizes for reading a certain number of books. Encourage your child to explore the shelves and catalog and to talk to the librarian to get ideas. Praise your child's choices even if you think the books seem too easy. Reading easier books is good practice and builds confidence in reading ability.

Explore reading together. Be a model—show your child how *your* interests relate to reading. Find time to pick up your magazine or book and encourage your child to choose one of his or her own. Read together and stop once in a while to talk about what each of you is reading and why you like it. You also can read the newspaper together to follow a

favorite sports team or read movie reviews.

Try to find time every day to read to your children—even the older ones. Let them choose their favorite books. Take time to discuss what you're reading. Ask questions that need more that just yes or no answers:

- Why did the characters do what they did?
- What would you do in that situation?
- Did you like the way the story ended? Why or why not?

You can engage children in longer books and create interest and anticipation by reading one part each day.

Give older children turns at reading parts of the book to you. Choose quiet times to read, after sports or playtime or before bed.

TV journeys. Television may be part of your child's summer, but notice what he or she is watching and doing and discuss these activities. Read the TV listings in your local paper or *TV Guide* with your children and help them find programs and movies that tie in with books. Rent videos that are based on books. Try to set TV and video-game time limits just as you do during the school year. Gently encourage a balance that includes TV and reading for pleasure.

Adventure around the house. Household chores can be enjoyable when reading is involved. Here are some ideas for reading during everyday tasks.

- Cooking involves lots of reading, including recipes, labels, and shopping lists.
- Sewing requires following a pattern.
- Finding things in the telephone book is great for practicing alphabetization as well as reading.
- Reading the directions on cleaning products or appliances will teach children how to use instructions.

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Reading voyages, real and imaginary. Family outings are ideal for sparking reading. Whether it's a trip across town to a museum or baseball game, an annual visit to the lake or beach, or a journey to a faraway place, there are things to read before and during the trip. Gather articles, brochures, and books about the place you are going and read and discuss them with your child. You also can look for fiction set in the places you're going.

Even if you're not traveling, children can have adventures by reading books about faraway places. Encourage your child to choose a place he or she would like to visit someday, or the culture of a friend or relative, and find out as much as possible. The library will be a big help in finding books and videos, and perhaps World Wide Web sites on the Internet can provide information. Get the whole family involved.

Authors of excitement. Reading and writing skills are connected closely. Summer activities and adventures provide a wealth of writing possibilities. Young children can dictate stories and thoughts to you that you write down for them to illustrate, or you can provide writing materials for them to use. Encourage children to write about family outings, keep diaries or journals, write letters or postcards to friends or relatives, help with shopping lists, or create stories. You can even take their work and turn it into simple, stapled-together books for them to keep or send to friends or relatives.

Summer is a time for fun, relaxation...and reading adventures! You are your child's most important teacher. Help him or her realize the joy of reading for pleasure and information. Fit a few minutes or more of reading into every summer day.

Additional resources

IRA offers lists of new children's books chosen by both school children and teachers from across the United States. *Children's Choices* and *Teacher's Choices* are available for free. Download copies from the site of *Reading Online*, IRA's electronic journal, at http://www.readingonline.org/reviews/, or send a 9 x 12 self-addressed envelope plus $1 for shipping and handling to the address listed below. And check out IRA's Web site at http://www.reading.org for additional information on IRA publications.

The Children's Book Council Web site at http://www.cbcbooks.org has a page for parents that includes tips for reading to young children, reading activities, and a link to a searchable online version of *Children's Choices*.

Other brochures in this series include:

*Get Ready to Read! Tips for Parents of Young Children

*Explore the Playground of Books: Tips for Parents of Beginning Readers

*Also available in Spanish.

This brochure may be purchased from the International Reading Association in quantities of 100, prepaid only. (Please contact the Association for pricing information.) Single copies are free upon request by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Requests from outside the U.S. should include an envelope, but postage is not required.

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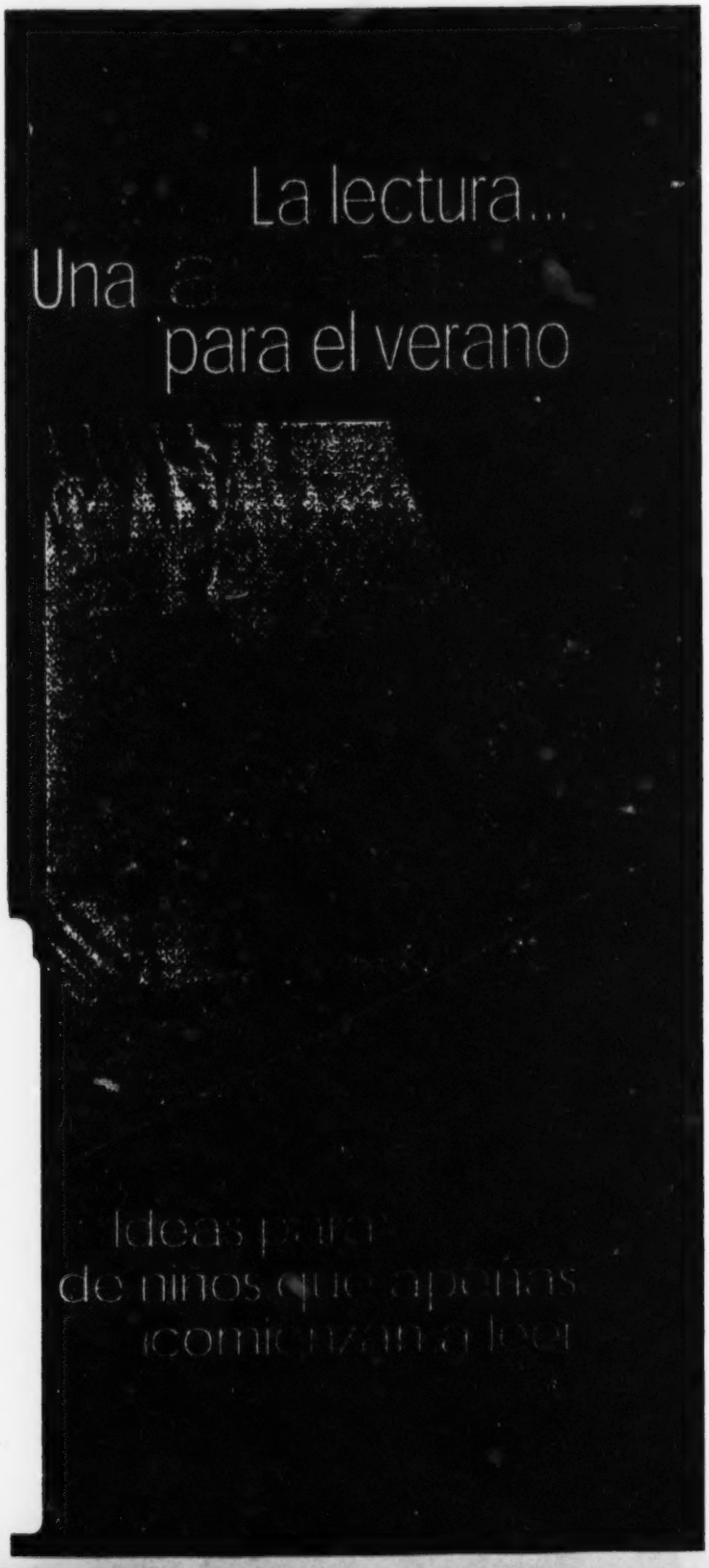

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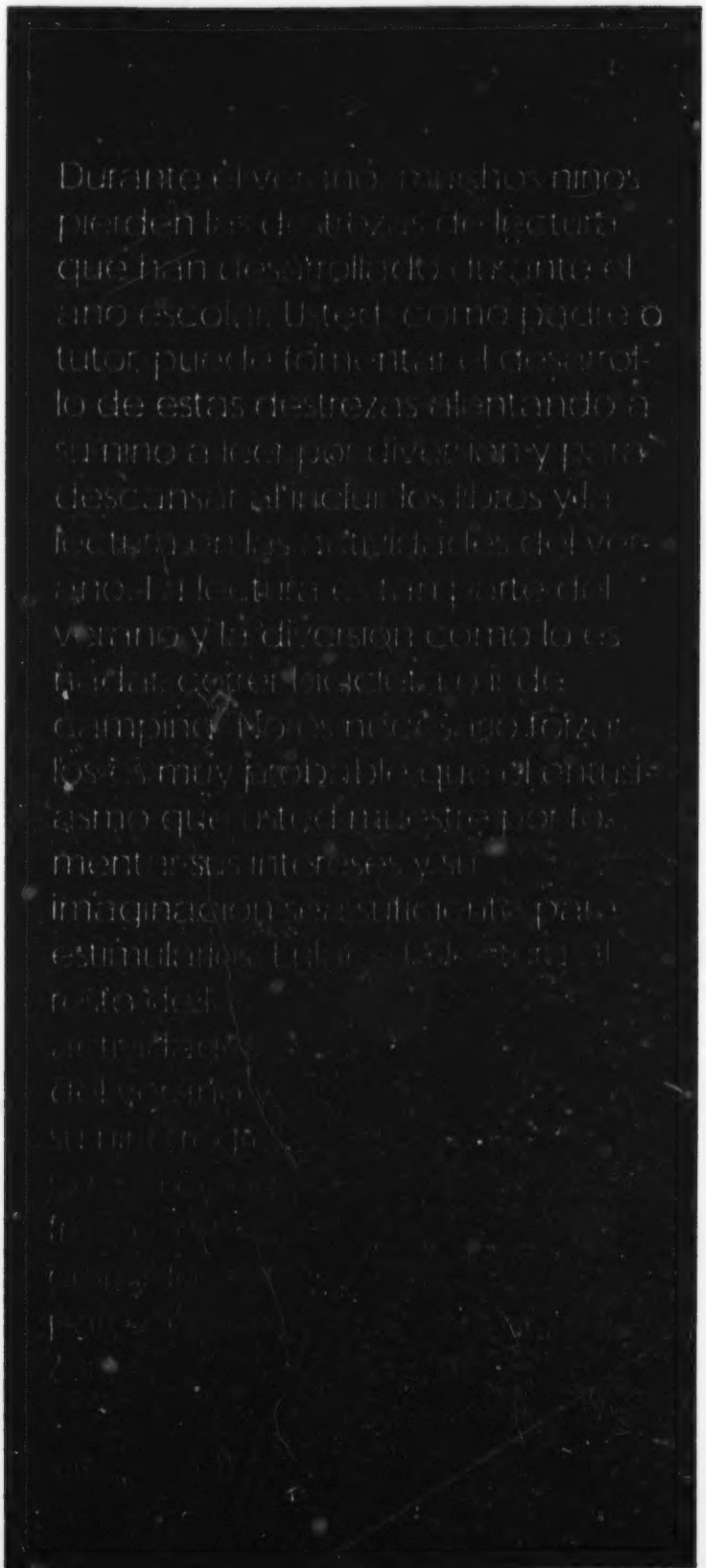

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Este verano...
Salga en pos de la lectura

En busca de libros. Seleccione libros que tengan que ver con las actividades de verano de su niño ya sea, beisból, coleccionar o el ciclismo. Ponga los libros en un lugar accesible e incluya otros materiales o libros de autores favoritos. Esta área puede ser un área de descanso o para leer después de un juego o nadar. Lleve libros a la playa, piscina o al parque.

Tras las revistas. El verano es buena época para recibir ejemplares de revistas para niños o buscarlas en la biblioteca pública. Estas revistas cubren temas de interés para todos: ficción, deportes, naturaleza o artesanías. A los niños les encanta recibir revistas por correo especialmente si son dedicadas a sus temas favoritos. Estas revistas también le permitirán a los niños compartir sus descubrimientos con sus amistades.

Tesoros en la biblioteca. Visite la biblioteca con frecuencia. Investigue si hay un programa de verano que ofrece premios por leer cierto número de libros. Aliente a su niño a explorar los estantes, el catálogo y a hablar con la bibliotecaria para encontrar ciertos libros. Felicítelo por su elección aunque piense que los libros escogidos son muy sencillos. El leer libros fáciles es buena práctica y le dará confianza en su habilidad como lector.

Exploren la lectura juntos. De un buen ejemplo mostrándole a su niño cómo se relaciona la lectura a sus intereses. Tome un libro o revista y dígale a su niño que tome uno también. Lean juntos y discutan lo que cada uno ha leído. Pueden leer el periódico

y seguir a su equipo favorito o las reseñas de cine.
Trate de leerle todos los días, aún a los mayores. Deje que escoja sus libros preferidos. Discuta lo que han leído. Haga preguntas que requieran respuestas más extensas que un sí o un no:

- ¿Por qué actuaron de esa manera los personajes?
- ¿Qué harías tú en esas circunstancias?
- ¿Te gustó el final del cuento? Sí o no, ¿Por qué?

Puede interesar al niño en libros más largos leyendo una parte por día, creando así expectativa e interés.
Deje que los mayores le lean a usted partes del libro. Escoja momentos tranquilos para leer como después de jugar, o antes de ir a dormir.

Viaje con la Televisión. La televisión puede formar parte del verano pero siempre y cuando esté usted al tanto y discuta lo que ve y hace. Vea el listado de programas y escoja aquellos programas o películas que tengan algo que ver con los libros que ha leído. Alquile películas basadas en libros. Limite la televisión y los juegos de video tanto como durante el año escolar. Fomente un equilibrio entre la televisión y la lectura placentera.

Aventuras en el hogar. Las tareas del hogar pueden ser divertidas si se lee. A continuación presentamos algunas ideas para fomentar la lectura con tareas cotidianas.

- La lectura es esencial para cocinar pues hay que leer recetas, etiquetas y listas de compra.
- La costura requiere seguir un patrón.

- La guía telefónica es ideal para aprender el orden alfabético y leer.
- Los niños pueden aprender a leer y seguir instrucciones al leer las instrucciones en los productos de limpieza.

Viajes reales e imaginarios. Los paseos familiares son ideales para fomentar la lectura. Ya sea un viaje al museo local, a un juego de beisból o un viaje al extranjero, hay mucho que leer antes de partir. Lea artículos, folletos y libros sobre el lugar que van a visitar y discútalo con su niño.
Aún si no va de viaje, el niño puede crear aventuras leyendo cuentos sobre lugares lejanos. Sugiérale que busque información y lea sobre un lugar que quisiera visitar o sobre la cultura de algún amigo o familiar. Probablemente encuentren muchos libros sobre el tema en la biblioteca y quizás hasta en el Internet. Deje que toda la familia participe.

Autores de aventuras. Las destrezas de lectura y escritura están estrechamente relacionadas. Las actividades veraniegas ofrecen numerosas oportunidades para la escritura. Los niños menores pueden dictar sus cuentos y luego ilustrarlos; los mayores pueden escribir sus cuentos si usted provee los materiales necesarios. Aliéntelos a escribir sobre las actividades familiares, a que lleven un diario, a que le escriban a familiares y a amistades, a que ayuden con la lista de compras o a que inventen cuentos. Hasta puede usted tomar estas historias y engraparlas en forma de libro para guardar o enviar a su familia.

El verano es para divertirse, descansar y tener mil aventuras leyendo. Usted es el maestro más importante de su niño. Ayúdelo a descubrir la lectura como algo placentero y educativo. Lean todos los días del verano.

Otros recursos

La IRA ofrece una lista de libros seleccionados por niños y maestros de todo el país, *Children's Choices and Teacher's Choices*, la cual es gratis. Si desea una copia, envie un sobre 9 x 12 con su dirección y un dólar para cubrir gastos de envio a la dirección que aparece en el folleto. Visítenos en la red http://www.reading.org y vea las publicaciones que tenemos disponibles. El Children's Book Council en el internet, http://www.cbcbooks.org tiene un área con ideas para leerle a los niños, actividades, y la versión de *Children's Choices* para el internet.

Otros folletos en esta serie incluyen:
Prepárese a leer...Ideas para padres de niños que apenas comienzan a leer
Explore el mundo de la lectura...Ideas para padres de niños que apenas comienzan a leer

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